

The Punta Gorda Herald

VOLUME XXII — NUMBER 5.

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1914

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 A YEAR.

FATAL DUEL ON TOP OF SPEEDING TRAIN

Former Florida Sheriff Battles With Yeggs

OFFICER IS FATALLY SHOT

In Attempting to Arrest Two Desperadoes on Lumber Train Near Wildwood, Fla., Revolver Fight Takes Place.

Battling in a pistol duel with two desperate robbers on top of a rapidly moving train near Wildwood, Fla., James Lane, former sheriff of Sumter county, was killed, but not until he had ended the career of one of the desperadoes and wounded the other.

A man named John Raymond was the principal in a hold-up in Ocala. He and another tramp held up a man named J. H. Hinegardner and robbed him of some money, a pistol and watch.

Raymond's accomplice, Waddell Kirkland, was arrested by Ocala police, but Raymond escaped.

Lane was on the lookout for him and tried to arrest him.

Raymond fired as soon as he saw the officer, fatally wounding him, only to be shot down himself. Both died in a few minutes.

Lane was employed as a special agent of the Seaboard railroad.

Another tramp turned up at Wildwood, shot twice through his right arm. He said he was on the car with the dead desperado when Lane tried to arrest him, and was shot by the officer while trying to get out of the way.

The battle took place on top of a car of lumber while the train was at full speed.

The desperado fired first and hit Lane; then he must have fired again, for Lane was hit twice.

Lane fired five times after he was shot and did not miss once.

The dead man was found beside the railroad track. An automatic pistol, a quantity of nitro-glycerine and a lot of postage stamps were found on his person. Officers think he may have been the man who robbed the Lawtrey post office.

The train crew did not know of the fatal duel until they found Lane's body on top of the car of lumber.

THAW GOING TO FLORIDA.

If Released, May Spend Winter at Dungeness.

In the event that Harry K. Thaw is released from custody in Concord, N. H., on bail, he will be the guest of Roger O'Mara, ex-police chief of Pittsburg, now in Jacksonville. Mr. O'Mara stated that, no doubt Harry Thaw would immediately come to Florida and spend the winter with the rest of his family at their winter home, Dungeness.

"Harry Thaw will be a free man within a very short time. I am as positive of this fact as I am that I am living." This statement was given out at the Hotel Burbridge by Roger O'Mara, ex-police chief of Pittsburg, and who is at the present time the head of the Roger O'Mara Detective Agency of that city.

New Church at Miami Dedicated. The dedication services of the First Methodist Episcopal church were held at Miami, Fla. Bishop Leete, of Atlanta, preached the sermon, and Dr. Krantz, of New York, took charge of the financial end. The church sold its first property for \$5,000. The new church, which is one of the finest in the South, is valued at \$100,000.

Woodmen Elect Officers. The W. O. W. at Jasper, Fla., elected the following new officers: R. H. Knapp, council commander; G. A. Smith, clerk; M. W. Knowles, banker; W. C. Caldwell, advisory lieutenant; J. C. Barton, sentry; C. H. Pennington, escort; Penawell McCall, watchman; J. A. Jackson, W. R. Hunter and J. D. Mullis, managers.

Missing Official's Successor Named. J. T. Eubanks has been appointed as a member of the commissioners' court of Etowah county, Ala., succeeding S. S. Conn, whose mysterious disappearance excited interest six weeks ago. Conn has never been located. He was a prominent farmer.

VETS URGED TO ATTEND.

Confederate Reunion at Jacksonville, Fla.

President William Foor, of the Jacksonville Confederate Reunion Association, a body chartered for the purpose of handling the coming reunion, has sent out a letter to all the Confederate camps in the country, inviting them to Jacksonville in April and May.

He assures them of the welcome that will await them, of the ability of the city to entertain them, and of the intention of the city to make the Jacksonville reunion one notable for its largeness in every way.

Motorcyclist Killed by Trolley Car.

His head and body so tightly jammed in the running gear of a street car in Tampa that it was necessary to jack the car clear of the track to extricate him, Duard Bourquard met instant death. Bourquard was riding his motorcycle in a nearby resort and tried to pass in front of a fast interurban car. He fell under the wheels, and was mangled beyond recognition.

COLLISION ON A. C. L.

Sixteen Persons Injured When Rear-End Crash Occurs.

Sixteen passengers and crew of the Southern's Palm Limited were injured, most of them slightly, when the Palm Limited ran into the rear end of A. C. L. train No. 55 three hundred yards west of the Jacksonville Terminal Station.

Immediately after the accident the injured were given medical attention by the Jacksonville Terminal Company's surgeon, Dr. J. H. Pittman, and all injured passengers were able to proceed to their respective destinations on connecting lines.

The collision was evidently due to the heavy fog prevailing at the time.

BIG CROSTIE THEFT.

15,000 Stolen From Florida Railroad Right of Way.

What is considered one of the most extensive robberies in the history of Duval county was disclosed when seven negroes and two white men were placed under arrest by Deputy Sheriffs Crawford, Haddock and McCleod, charged with the larceny of railroad ties from the Florida Railway, which had been in the process of construction from Live Oak to Jacksonville.

It is said that over 15,000 crossties have been taken from the right of way of the railroad in the past few weeks and disposed of by the thieves to other parties at a good price.

Well known white men are said to have been implicated in the wholesale steal of ties, as well as many negroes.

Diaz Must Die for Murder.

The supreme court of Tennessee affirmed a death sentence on Alphonzo Diaz, a native of Cuba, charged with murdering his wife in Sumner county. The court designated March 3 as the day of execution. Diaz came to this country with soldiers returning from Cuba.

Names Gardner for Supreme Bench.

Governor O'Neal named Lucius D. Gardner, of Troy, Ala., chancellor of the southeastern division, as associate justice of the state supreme court, to succeed Judge John C. Anderson, promoted to chief justice. T. M. Espy, of Dothan, is named as chancellor to succeed Judge Gardner.

Family Poisoned.

The family of Mrs. Annie Hutchins, four persons of Palatka, are suffering from ptomaine poisoning, thought to be due to eating canned meat.

Farmers Ask Ballot for Women.

The United Farmers of Alberta, representing 16,000 farmers, have unanimously petitioned Parliament asking for woman suffrage both in the province and throughout the Dominion.

No Woman Suffrage for S. Carolina.

By unanimously adopting the unfavorable report of the committee on judiciary, the South Carolina house of representatives killed the bill which would extend the right of suffrage to women in that state. The bill also would have allowed women to practice law.

Robbers Get \$5,000.

Robbers blew open the vault in the Farmers' bank at Ludlow, Mo., and escaped with \$5,000, mostly silver.

WARSHIPS WILL VISIT FESTIVAL

TO BE IN TAMPA HARBOR GASPARILLA WEEK.

Battlers of Several Nations Will Add to the Sights City is to Show Its Guests.

Warships of several nations will visit Tampa during the Gasparilla festival, February 21-24. Assurance was given the men of the Gasparilla committee early in January that submarines and torpedo destroyers of the United States fleet would be on hand to escort the Gasparilla craft up the bay. Secretary of the Navy Daniels has given orders which set four submarines and a monitor in motion on a leisurely trip from Norfolk, which will bring them into Tampa Bay before the celebration has opened. Torpedo boats of the United States Atlantic squadron are also expected.

The consuls of Great Britain, Italy, Cuba, Spain and France are making every possible effort to get warships from their countries here for the Gasparilla occasion. There is a likelihood also that Germany will have a cruiser in port, as steps were taken through the foreign ministers to the country to secure such action on the part of the foreign navy departments.

Consul R. M. Thor of Cuba has practical assurance that the gunboat Cuba will be on hand. Vice Consul E. W. Monroe of this city regards the chance of these being a representative of the French navy here as being of the brightest. Consul Colombo is the Italian consul. He is backed in his request by the many Italian residents of the city, and L'Unione Italian, which wishes to entertain an Italian warship and crew during the carnival. Consul A. Nistal likewise has confidence that the Spanish government will not overlook the celebration, more particularly as the name of a Spanish sea rover, Jose Gasparilla, is commemorated by the occasion.

An opportunity will be given the visitors to the city to go aboard the warships which will tie up at the docks in this city, and there will thus be an educational feature to the celebration, for it is an unusual opportunity for the people of inland towns to see the war boats. There is no doubt that this feature of the celebration will be attractive to many.

STATE OF FLORIDA IS IN A FINE FINANCIAL CONDITION

The annual report of State Treasurer J. C. Luning, giving a detailed account of the financial transactions of the state government for the year 1913, has just been issued, and shows the state to be in a fine financial condition.

There is a balance to the credit of all funds except two, the Indian war claims and the Peabody building fund of the University of Florida. Balances range from \$496,668.59 in the pension fund to \$9.70 in the incidental fund of the Agricultural and Mechanical College. The school fund has a balance of \$397,286.44.

The largest item of general revenue, as shown by the report, was the general license tax, which brought in \$449,000.

Among the expenditures of the year from the general revenue fund, the largest item is for the maintenance of lunatics, which cost the people of Florida \$223,000. The legislature cost the state \$102,000; the railroad commission \$27,000; and the state board of health, \$99,000.

The receipts of the state government during 1913 amounted in the aggregate to \$3,683,298.19 and the total disbursements were \$3,224,990.54. The public debt of the state consists solely of refunded bonds amounting to \$601,567, bearing interest at 3 per cent, all of which are held by the educational funds of the state.

FLORIDA TOWN SUFFERS.

Flames of Unknown Origin Cause Loss of \$30,000 at Oviedo.

Efforts to ascertain the exact cause of flames, which in two hours resulted in a loss estimated at \$30,000, sweeping the whole business section of Oviedo, Fla., have proved fruitless.

The heaviest losers in this fire are H. B. McCall, W. H. Howard, J. B. Jones, L. T. Hunt, E. Wilson, D. D. Daniels, T. Aulin and B. F. Wheeler. The McKenzie Dry Goods Company, the Lawton Bros. general merchandise store and warehouse, the Bank of Oviedo and the post office building are practically all there is left to the business part of town.

Governor Grants Respite.

Governor Trammell has granted a respite to Tom Williams, who was to hang in Putnam county. The respite was granted upon representation that there is doubt as to his sanity.

Lake View Hotel Destroyed By Fire.

Flames, which originated in the kitchen, entirely destroyed the Lake View hotel at Mineola, Fla., with a loss of fully \$6,000.

NEWS PROVES FATAL.

When Told of Cousin's Death Farmer Drops Dead.

John McKinney, aged 70, a farmer residing near Asheville, N. C., dropped dead after a messenger had read to him a telegram telling of the death of his cousin, Joe McKinney, aged 63 who was killed a few hours before.

The two men had been close companions for many years and a strong attachment existed between them. The younger of the two was killed in a forest near that city when a log rolled upon him and news of the fatal accident immediately was sent to the victim's cousin. The latter is said to have been in poor health for some time past and the shock is said to have been too severe for his weak heart.

WILSON CRITICISED.

American Policy Toward Mexico Is Attacked.

Severe criticism of the American policy toward Mexico was the feature of addresses by Paul Reynaud, a lawyer, and Andre Lebon, former French minister for the colonies, at the monthly luncheon of the Association of French Manufacturers and Merchants in Paris.

"The American policy," said M. Reynaud, "conceals under a Puritanic exterior a financial scandal. The public opinion of the world must compel the United States to establish peace by supporting General Huerta or his successor, and not allowing the revolution in Mexico to be financed by interests in the United States."

M. Lebon criticised both the policy of the United States and the methods of Provisional President Huerta.

Tampa Delays Action.

Owing to the illness of Mayor D. B. McKay, the selection of a plan for the new city hall for Tampa had to be postponed. Two plans are left from which to make a selection and as soon as one of these is selected Professor W. P. Laird, of the University of Pennsylvania, will ask for bids in the name of the city.

Florida Postmasters Named.

The following Florida post office appointments have just been announced: Juniper, Gadsden county, Edwin G. Goodson. Limona, Hillsborough county, Robert C. Delbridge. Nash, Jefferson county, Della J. Ritter. Odesa, Pasco county, Lloyd J. Matlock. Red Rock, Santa Rosa county, William P. Eaden.

Father Foley May Be Bishop.

It became known at Baltimore that the Rev. Michael F. Foley, rector of St. Paul's Catholic church, of Baltimore, heads the list of nominations sent to Rome by Cardinal Gibbons for the appointment of a bishop to St. Augustine to succeed the late Bishop William J. Kenny.

Big Strawberries Grown.

Strawberries, big as walnuts, are being sold by A. D. Albritton, who, on his home place near Sarasota, Fla., experimented with a small patch last winter. This year he has in about 20,000 plants that were set in August and began having ripe fruit at Thanksgiving.

GRAFT TRIAL GETS HOTTER AND HOTTER

Conduct of N. Y. Officials Investigated.

MALFEASANCE IN OFFICE

Be Sought at Once—Many Prominent Men Caught in the Net.

The immediate indictment of two present and two former state officials on charges of malfeasance in office will be sought in Albany county, it was announced by James W. Osborne, appointed by Governor Glynn to investigate alleged highway and barge canal graft. Osborne left for Albany to place the matter before the district attorney. He will seek indictments against John Bessel, state engineer; Duncan W. Peck, superintendent of public works; C. Gordon Reel, former superintendent of highway, and Chas. F. Foley, former deputy highway commissioner.

Osborne was incensed by reports that Attorney General Carmody did not consider there had been a violation of the law in the manner in which Foley was permitted to award more than 300 highway contracts.

If District Attorney Whitman meets with opposition at banks throughout the state in his investigation of deposit accounts of Charles F. Murphy, Tammany leader, and James E. Gaffney, his associate, Mr. Osborne's state-wide powers will be brought to Mr. Whitman's aid, Mr. Osborne said.

It was learned that besides the accounts of Murphy and Gaffney, the district attorney has under examination those of Bessel, Peck, Reel and Foley, Philip F. Donohue, treasurer of Tammany hall; Arthur A. McLean, treasurer of the democratic state committee, who recently pleaded guilty to a charge of accepting a campaign contribution from a corporation, and Everett P. Fowler, of Kingston, former member of the committee, who is awaiting trial on a charge of extortion.

DIPLOMAT SLAIN.

Cook Kills His Master Before Dinner Guests.

Paul Chevalier de Valdrome, French diplomatic agent at Tangier, Morocco, was killed by his cook, a man named Sure, in the presence of guests invited to attend an official dinner at the legation.

The cook at the last minute refused to serve the dinner, and M. De Valdrome ordered him out of the house. As M. De Valdrome was returning to his guests the cook followed and shot the diplomatic agent twice. M. De Valdrome staggered into the salon and fell, dying in the arms of a high official. The slayer was arrested.

KILLS HIS BROTHER.

Mother Declares Son Who Did Killing "Has Saved Our Lives."

Edward Keafauver shot and killed his brother, Otto, 28 years old, in a suburb of Roanoke, Va., after Otto had abused his sister, Mary, and thrown the girl through a glass door of their home, severely cutting the young lady's face.

"He has saved our lives, for if this had gone on we should all have been killed," declared the mother of the two boys after the shooting. She declared her son, Otto, had threatened to kill the whole family for five years.

Edward Keafauver was held by the coroner's jury responsible for the death of his brother. When arraigned before Magistrate Pollard for a preliminary hearing, Edward Keafauver was exonerated.

Morgan to Establish Bank in Russia.

It is reported that a powerful group of American financiers, headed by J. P. Morgan, is founding with the authority of the government a big bank in Russia, with a capital of \$25,000,000.

Bids for Statue.

Bids will be opened in Jacksonville March 6 for the military statue of General E. Kirby-Smith, to be placed in the Hall of Fame in Washington with Florida's other national hero, Dr. John Gorrie. This was the action taken by the commission to execute this duty empowered by act of the last legislature, and named by Governor Park Trammell.